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been authoritatively expounded and "fixed" by courts of appellate jurisdiction, and covers only patent law proper, not patent-soliciting, copyrights, nor trademarks so frequently associated therewith.

The book is not, nor does it pretend to be, any fashion of text-book for one not already somewhat familiar with patent law. Its use is collateral, like that of an encyclopedia. But for the practicing patent-lawyer, it is an elaborate collection of authoritative and illuminating rulings on the subject, convenient in form, amply provided with cross references so that a general idea of the heading under which a point might come should eventually lead to the precise topic, exhaustive and exact.

J. B. W.

THE CANADIAN TORRENS SYSTEM, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE STATUTES OF MANITOBA, SASKATCHEWAN AND ALBERTA AND OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA; AND WITH A COLLECTION OF FORMS, STATUTES AND LEADING CASES. By Douglas J. Thom, B.A., of Osgoode Hall, Barrister-at-Law, and of the Bar of Saskatchewan; formerly of the Bar of the Northwest Territories. Calgary: Burroughs & Co., Law Publishers, 1912: pp. xxvi, 782.

It is unfortunate that the public discussion of the merits and failings of the Torrens System of Land Registration has been so acrimonious and bitter, and it is still more unfortunate that this same partisan attitude has been carried into most of the books which have been written on the subject in the United States; the proponents of the system claiming that it is a panacea for all the ills of our real property law, its opponents claiming that it is a useless complication and that its only effect will be to produce chaos and confiscation. We welcome Mr. Thom's book as a clear and unprejudiced statement of what the system has actually accomplished in our neighboring commonwealth.

The writer of this review expresses no opinion as to the advisability of the adoption of the Torrens System in the states of this country; he does, however, protest against the unscientific, narrow-minded attitude in which the problem has been approached by most of the writers and lecturers.

According to Mr. Thom, the Torrens System has been a real success in Canada, which, however, does not mean that necessarily it would be a success here. Perhaps one of the most interesting parts of the book, at least to people of this country, is the introduction, which outlines the history of the system, its general purpose, and the evils it is designed to remedy.

The text of the book covers in detail the operation of the system in the Canadian provinces, the manner of bringing land under registration, the subsequent transfers and transactions with reference to the land registered, the functions and duties of the courts and officers, the assurance fund, and the purpose and effect of the caveat. There are appendixes containing copies of the statutes, scale of tariffs, forms, and opinions in a few leading cases.

Although our legal system is such as to make the Canadian Torrens System in its entirety impossible here, at least without constitutional changes, anyone interested in the general subject will find Mr. Thom's book to be of interest.

R. W. A.